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came general, and even Westminster Abbey appears among the famous churches which were adorned with the spoils of Rome.

After the beginning of the fifteenth century the record is much more exhaustive. Thus on pp. 100-126 are the notices sifted from the *sylloge inscriptionum* of Fra Giocondo, with reference to the thirty-nine private collections of antiquities in Rome in 1498. In connection with the discussion of the sack of Rome in 1527, it is interesting to note that Lanciani takes his position definitely with Gregorovius that the German troops did not deliberately destroy the antiquities of the city.

Although this book is essentially of the nature of a catalogue, it is written with the author's usual charm of style, and the typography is most attractive. It is characteristic of Lanciani that he should adhere to some of his topographical identifications, even after they have been generally abandoned by all others. This work when completed will be a fitting climax to the author's many years of investigation, and will probably be the most valuable and useful of his long series of publications.

S. B. P.

Ancient History to the Death of Charlemagne. By WILLIS MASON WEST, Professor of History in the University of Minnesota. (Boston : Allyn and Bacon. 1902. Pp. xlii, 564.)

THE appearance of this volume affords one more indication of the passing of the old one-year course in general history. Considering such a course "confessedly inadequate, unattractive, and destitute of disciplinary value," Professor West has adopted the compromise proposed by the Committee of Seven, which demands a full year of study for the ancient period alone, and has prepared for the first year's work in history in high schools a text-book which departs in many respects from the conventional manuals of ancient history. Instead of writing separate histories of Greece and Rome and binding them in one cover, he has sought to give Greece and Rome their proper setting in a unified account of the ancient world from the earliest times to the death of Charlemagne, where his volume on modern history is to begin. In order to secure this result many topics once deemed essential are omitted or greatly condensed, while the great connecting epochs of the Hellenistic period and the Roman Empire are treated with unusual fullness. One will look in vain for the jewels of Cornelia and for the sacred chickens; in spite of Thucydides and Cæsar, the accounts of the Sicilian expedition and the campaigns in Gaul occupy but six lines each. The space thus saved from anecdote and military narrative is devoted to the causes and results of wars and to relatively full descriptions of institutions and civilization. Other features of the book will come as a shock to many teachers. Since "the Middle Age is an uncertain one," the author finds "a manifest advantage in ignoring it and in making only two parts to history." The reader is warned against using race character as a universal solvent or even as in itself a valid explanation. "The Aryan fiction" gives way to an anthropological classification of races, and even the Aryan languages are dis-

missed with bare mention in a foot-note. In the early history of Greece the new theories of Professor Ridgeway are preferred to "the undoubted error" of other views. The paganism of the Roman Empire gets fairer treatment than in most text-books, and the temptation to ascribe the fall of Rome to the vices of the Romans is successfully resisted. Such independence, refreshing even when carried to extremes, has, however, its limits. Professor West does not profess to be a special student of ancient history or to draw deeply from the sources. He relies for the most part upon such respectable authorities as Holm, Ihne, and Mommsen's *History*, and does not appear to have profited by the more recent histories of Beloch, Meyer, or Pais, or to have used many of the more special monographs and constitutional treatises; so that those who incline toward the newer views will find much to criticize. Chronological exactness, too, is sometimes attempted where it is unattainable, statistics of population are given with undue confidence, and there are various errors of detail which need correction.

As a book for schools the volume has many excellent features. It is uncommonly well supplied with maps, it has an elaborate table of contents, it abounds in references, questions, and suggestions for supplementary work, and its abundant quotations from good books encourage further reading. The style is clear but not always simple, and the author has not shrunk from using difficult words. In the reviewer's opinion there is too much of generalization expressed in abstract terms, and too little concrete description. Still, the problem of presentation is much more difficult in a book of this kind than in a narrative text, and it is more important to stimulate thought than to tell a pleasing story. The book is plainly the work of an experienced and thoughtful teacher, and cannot fail to prove helpful to other teachers and to the better sort of students. Much of it looks like strong meat for the average pupil in his first year's work in history, but Professor West knows the high-school mind better than does the reviewer, and if students of this grade are ready for his book, they will find it a useful aid to historical study.

CHARLES H. HASKINS.

De Necessariis Observantiis Scaccarii Dialogus, commonly called Dialogus de Scaccario. By RICHARD, SON OF NIGEL, Treasurer of England and Bishop of London. Edited by ARTHUR HUGHES, C. G. CRUMP, and C. JOHNSON. (Oxford: at the Clarendon Press; New York: Henry Frowde. 1902. Pp. viii, 250.)

THE text edition of the *Dialogus de Scaccario* is doubly welcome because we have waited for it so long. The editors are three officials of the Public Record Office, who put forth their work "with some confidence" as an improved text. This claim must certainly be admitted, and the student of the book has now before him the various readings of the three manuscripts on which must depend our knowledge of what Richard son of Nigel wrote. The text itself as here published is a composite one adopting what the editors believe to be the best readings of the manu-